



09/706576

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Brian L. Schmidt et al.

Examiner: Andrew M. Dolinar

Serial No.: 09/706,576

Group Art Unit: 3747

Filed: November 3, 2000

Docket No.: 279.268US1

Title: CONFIGURATIONS AND METHODS FOR MAKING CAPACITOR
CONNECTIONS**Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This declaration is submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 for U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/706,576, to establish conception and actual reduction to practice of the invention claimed in U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/706,576, in the United States, on a date prior to June 30, 2000, which is the filing date of the United States Patent No. 6,402,793, issued to Miltich et al.

I, Brian L. Schmidt, declare and say as follows:

1. I am a sole inventor of the subject matter of the pending claims in the above-identified Application, after the present amendment.
2. The subject matter claimed in the patent application was invented while the I was employed by the Cardiac Pacemakers, Inc. subsidiary of Guidant Corporation.
3. The following documents are submitted as evidence of conception and actual reduction to practice of embodiments of the invention as disclosed in the United States Patent Application having Serial Number 09/706,576.
4. Prior to June 30, 2000, I conceived embodiments of the invention in the United States as evidenced by a copy of a signed lab notebook page, attached hereto as Exhibit I.

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Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

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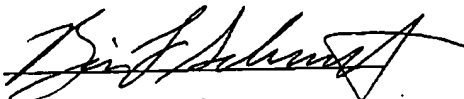
Dkt: 279.268US1

5. The lab notebook page of Exhibit I was prepared by me prior to June 30, 2000, with the date being masked.

6. Prior to June 30, 2000, an embodiment of the claimed subject matter which was rejected under 102(e) was reduced to practice in the United States. Under my direction a capacitor was constructed at Guidant in St. Paul, MN incorporating a conductor welded between the case and cover interface, substantially as shown in Exhibit I. The capacitor was successfully tested under my direction, again prior to June 30, 2000.

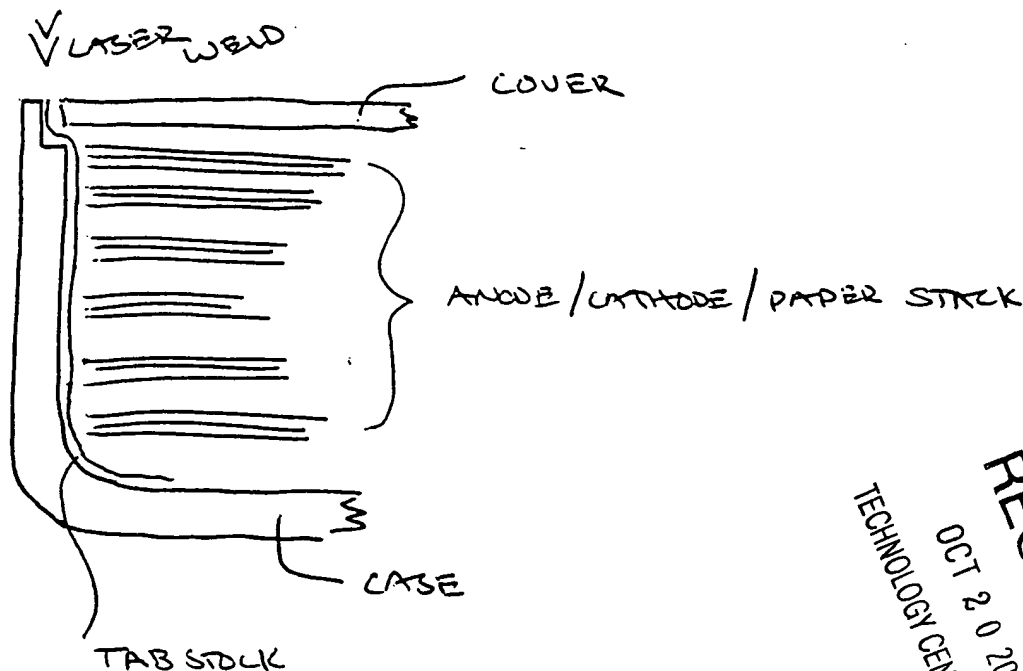
7. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

OCT 12, 2004
Dated


Brian L. Schmidt



INVENTION: AN IMPROVED METHOD TO CONNECT THE CATHODIC TAB STOCK OF A FLAT LAPARATOR TO THE CASE, USING A MINIMUM OF 2 HEIGHT.



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- ADVANTAGES:
- 1) DOES NOT REQUIRE TAB STOCK TO BE FOLDED OVER ON TOP OF THE STOCK, USING EXTRA 2-HEIGHT
 - 2) ELIMINATES U/S WELDING PROCESS

[Signature]

[Signature]